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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2004

September 15, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing asking you to consider the Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) application for funding under the ARRA Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants program for the **MD 5 Branch Ave Metro Access Phase 2/Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Project.** The State's efforts in implementing highway and transit projects under P.L. 111-5, "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" (ARRA) is reflective of the work Maryland is putting into ensuring the swift, transparent implementation of projects that will preserve and create jobs as well as promote economic recovery.

This project was selected after an extensive project solicitation and review period that involved coordination between MDOT and potential partners to select state- and locally-prioritized projects with the highest probability of success. Funding this project through TIGER would improve access to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) Branch Ave Metrorail Station from MD 5 (Branch Ave) and I-95/I-495 (Capitol Beltway) and thereby further the State of Maryland's priority of developing livable, sustainable communities.

Thank you for your consideration of Maryland's projects and for your continued support of infrastructure needs in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Donna F. Edwards Member of Congress